

Hartlepool Port Health Authority

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

For the Year Ended 31st December
1952

By JOHN CRABB,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.R.C.O.G.



Hartlepool Port Health Authority

1952/53

Chairman - - W. C. POUNDER

Elected by West Hartlepool Corporation :

- T. W. PINKNEY, "Greenbank," Manor Road, West Hartlepool.
- T. BREWARD, 37, Wharton Terrace, West Hartlepool.
- W. G. COWARD, 7, Eamont Gardens, West Hartlepool.
- T. N. HORSMAN, 169, Grange Road, West Hartlepool.
- J. ADDISON, 49, Marston Gardens, West Hartlepool.
- J. BRATTON, 4, Westbrooke Grove, West Hartlepool.
- A. ELLIOTT, 21, Ventnor Avenue, West Hartlepool.
- E. HAND, Crescent House, South Crescent, Hartlepool.
- T. ANDREWS, 3, Southburn Terrace, West Hartlepool.
- H. S. CRACE, 308, Stockton Road, West Hartlepool.

Elected by Hartlepool Corporation :

- F. J. CARR, O.B.E., J.P., Piercliffe, 32, St. Hilda St., Hartlepool.
- T. T. AIRD, Mill House Hotel, Throston St., West Hartlepool.
- A. J. ORLEY, (Mayor), 202, Hart Road, Hartlepool.
- W. C. POUNDER, 56, Howard Street, Hartlepool.
- T. MARINE, 333, West View Road, Hartlepool.

Fixed Days of Meetings

*At the Municipal Buildings, West Hartlepool.**

June 19th, 1952	December 11th, 1952	April 16th, 1953
September 18th, 1952	February 19th, 1953	June 18th, 1953

Each day at 6-0 p.m.

Finance and Port Committees :

All the Members of the Authority are Members of these Committees.

The Committees meet on the same day as the Meeting is held.

Officers :

Clerk	.. ..	..C.	GILBERT BUNTING, Solicitor, Exchange Building, 66, Church Street, West Hartlepool. Telephone : 3132-3 (2 lines).
Medical Officer	.. ..	..J.	CRABB, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.R.C.O.G., 221, Stockton Rd. West Hartlepool. Telephone : 3035.
Deputy Medical Officer	JOHN	T. SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., Owton Manor, West Hartlepool. Telephone : 3044.	
Inspector	.. ..	..R.	J. KNOTT, Exchange Building, Church St., West Hartlepool. Telephone : 2015.
Deputy Inspector	..G.	A. WARD, 12, Beaconsfield Street, Hartlepool. Telephone : 6112.	
Rat Catcher	.. ..	..H.	MENHENNET, 19, Penrith Street, Hartlepool.

ANNUAL REPORT

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Hartlepool Port Health Authority.**

Gentlemen,

In compliance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1952.

In accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Health some of the tables which used to be included in the report have been omitted.

While there has been a slight increase in the amount of timber imported the coal exports remain nearly the same.

There has been no infectious disease in the port during the year and the ordinary sickness incidence remains the same.

Work under the International Sanitary Convention of Paris and the International Sanitary Regulations which have taken its place, has resulted in the issue of 63 certificates as compared with 50 in 1951.

The work carried out by your Inspector, his deputy and the rat-catcher has been to my entire satisfaction, and the Inspector's work is given in detail in the report.

In conclusion I desire to express my thanks for the valuable assistance given to me by the Chief Preventive Officer of H.M. Customs and his Staff, to Captain Stathers, M.B.E. and his assistant dockmasters, to the Ministry of Transport Surveyor, to H.M. Immigration Officers, and also to the Pilot Master and the Pilots for their hearty co-operation with the officials of the Authority.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN CRABB,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.R.G.O.C.

Port Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I—STAFF.

Table A.

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Other Appointments Held
C. Gilbert Bunting John Crabb	Clerk to the Authority Medical Officer	19.10.1922 9.12.1948	Solicitor M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.R.C.O.G.	Part-time Appointment Part-time Appointment
John T. Smith R. J. Knott	Deputy Med. Officer Inspector	20.9.1951 1.12.1945	M.B., Ch.B. Master Mariner, Sanitary Inspector S.I.J.B. Ins. of Meat and other Food R.S.I.	Part-time Appointment None
G. A. Ward	Deputy Inspector	1.10.1937	San. Insp., S I.J.B., Inspector of Meat & Other Food, R.S.I.	San. Insp. Borough of Hartlepool.
H. Menhennet	Rat-catcher	18.3.1947	Nil	Permitted to do private work.

Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. John Crabb,
"Briardene,"
Foggy Furze,
West Hartlepool.
Telephone : Hartlepool 3035.

SECTION II—Amount of Shipping Entering the District during the year 1952.

Table B.

Ships from	No.	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having or having had, during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector	
Foreign Ports	484	313,267	49	476	Nil
Coastwise ..	915	872,897	33	855	Nil
Total ..	1,399	1,186,164	82	1,331	Nil

SECTION III—Character of Shipping and Trade during the year.

Table C.

Passenger Traffic—

This is not an approved Passenger Port and there is therefore no regular passenger traffic. Certain passengers are allowed to land subject to certain restrictions imposed by H.M. Immigration Office. The following information has been supplied through the courtesy of Mr. Lumb, H.M. Immigration Officer, Middlesbrough and West Hartlepool.

Number of passengers INWARDS	60
Number of passengers OUTWARDS	45
Alien passengers embarked	30
Alien passengers landed	40

Cargo Traffic—Principal Imports :—

Pitprops	294,101 loads
Mining Timber	26,049 „
Sawn Wood	90,242 „
Logs	1,125 tons
Other wood goods	3,238 „
Scrap	13,248 „
Iron Ore	51,240 „
Wood pulp	5,709 „
Fuel Oil	9,610 „
Miscellaneous	1,199 „
Fish	5,021 „

Principal Exports :—

Coal and Coke	2,006,007 tons
Magnesite	4,746 „
Machinery	1,515 „
General	4,413 „
Basic Slag	41,048 „

*The above particulars have been supplied through the courtesy
of the Docks and Inland Waterways Executive.*

Principal Ports from which Ships Arrive—

Cargo	Foreign Ports
Props ..	Archangel, Amal, Brevik, Brahestad, Christianstad, Christianhamm, Christiansund, Frederikstad, Falkenberg, Gefle, Grimstad, Helsinki, Hamingo, Hamina, Haukipudas, Helsingborg, Jacobstad, Kotka, Kasko, Kalmar, Kemi, Gamleby, Lapalouto, Leningrad, Langanger, Mantylouto, Monteras, Norkoping, Nortälje, Oskarshamm, Oslo, Porsgrund, Ronneby, Södertälje, Skien, Sundsvall, Stugsund, Toppila, Toere, Tornea, Uleaborg, Umea, Vanberg, Vestervik, Verkebeck, Wismar, Walkom, Yxpila, Bridgewater, Chatham, Gaspe, Pugwash, Pineridge, Quebec, St. John's, N.B.
Timber ..	Amsterdam, Arendal, Bordeaux, Gothenburg, Gefle, Groningen, Halmstad, Haukipudas, Kalmar, Karlsborg, Kragero, Kotka, Kasko, Rotterdam, Risör, Raumo, Sundsvall, Skutskar, Söderhamm, Skien, Stettin, Uleaborg, Vanersborg, Wismar, Walkom, Yokohama.
Mahogany Logs ..	West Africa.
Wood pulp	Halmstad, Kotka, Gothenburg, Karlsborg.
Sleepers ..	Falkenberg, Bordeaux, Ajaccio.
Scrap Iron	Copenhagen, Gronigen.
Cement ..	Bremen.

Ships arrived light from—

Antwerp, Bayonne, Calais, Copenhagen, Cherbourg, Ghent, Hamburg, Holbach, Malmö, Rotterdam, Rostok, Ullapool, Vesteras, Vejle, Vesterhamm.

SECTION IV—Inland Barge Traffic.

There is no such traffic.

SECTION V—Water Supply.

1. (a) The Port is supplied by the Hartlepool Water Company.
(b) Ships are supplied from hydrants fitted on certain quays.
2. Tests for contamination are carried out by the Hartlepool and West Hartlepool Authorities.
3. Hydrants are covered when not in use and hoses are properly stored.
4. There are no water boats in the district.
The water is very hard but of excellent quality.

SECTION VI—Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

(1) List of Infected Areas—

A list of infected ports from which ships are likely to arrive is prepared by the Medical Officer, and a copy of this list in the form of a letter is sent to the Customs and Pilots, and when considered advisable to the shipping agents. These notices are usually delivered by hand.

(2) Radio Messages—

- (a) Permission by radio for vessels to enter the port is sent through the Harbour Master's Office and Cullercoats Radio Station.
- (b) This port has been included by the Minister of Health on the list of "radio receiving ports" and messages sent to "Portelth, Hartlepool" are sent directly to the Port Health Office or to the home of the Port Medical Officer.

(3) Notification otherwise than by Radio—

Arrangements have been made for the notification to the Port Health Authority by the Customs and the Pilots of any ship requiring special medical attention on arrival in the port. Shipping agents also notify when they have received messages, whether by radio or telegram of sickness on board an expected arrival.

(4) Mooring Stations—

The mooring station established by the Authority with the concurrence of the Collector of Customs and the Harbour Master is at the buoys in the outer harbour. A plan of the harbour showing the exact position of the buoys was transmitted to the Minister of Health.

There is no mooring station within the docks.

(5) Arrangements for—

- (a) Hospital accommodation for infectious disease ;
Cases of infectious disease, other than smallpox, are removed to Brierton Lane Isolation Hospital.

(b) Surveillance of contacts ;

Contacts remaining on board are kept under observation by the Medical Officer of Health, and on the vessel leaving, information is forwarded to the next port of call. Contacts leaving the ship are ordered to report to the Medical Officer of the town to which they are proceeding and the names and addresses of such contacts are forwarded to the Medical Officer of the town to which the contacts are proceeding.

(c) Cleansing and disinfection :

Disinfectants are kept in stock ready for use in case of infectious disease. Cleansing and disinfecting are done by, or under the supervision of, the Port Health Staff.

Persons, clothing and other articles requiring cleansing and disinfecting are sent to the Burn Road Cleansing Station, West Hartlepool.

SECTION VII—Smallpox.

(1) Smallpox patients would be sent to Langley Park Hospital, Langley Park, County Durham.

(2) Arrangements have been made with the County Borough of West Hartlepool to remove any smallpox cases arriving, or occurring, in the port, and they are responsible for the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

(3) Smallpox consultants available are :—

Dr. J. B. Robinson, Brierton Hospital, West Hartlepool.
and Dr. E. Thorpe, 13, The Broadway, Grindon, Sunderland.

(4) Dr. R. T. Cooke, Pathologist at the General Hospital, West Hartlepool has facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.

SECTION VIII—Venereal Disease.

Merchant seamen are able to have treatment for Venereal Disease at the following places at the times stated.

Mill House Clinic,

Stranton,

West Hartlepool.

Males—Thursdays, 5-0 p.m.

Females—Wednesdays, 2-0 p.m.

General Hospital,

West Lane,

Middlesbrough

Daily—8-0 a.m. to 5-0 p.m.

Wednesday—5-0 p.m. to 7-0 p.m.

Stockton and Thornaby
Hospital,

Bowesfield Lane, Daily—4-0 p.m. to 6-0 p.m.
Stockton-on-Tees Saturday—9-0 a.m. to 10-30 a.m.

Any requiring in-patient treatment would be accommodated at the General Hospital, West Lane, Middlesbrough.

Cards giving information of the places and times at which treatment for Venereal Disease can be had are delivered on board ships by the Inspector.

SECTION IX—Cases of Notifiable and other Infectious Diseases on Ships.

Table D.

Category	Disease	No. of cases during year		No. of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports. . . .		Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival		Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ships		Nil	Nil	Nil

SECTION X—Observations on the occurrence of Malaria in Ships.

There have been no cases of malaria on ships in or arriving at the port.

SECTION XI—Measures taken against Ships infected with or suspected for Plague.

There have been no such ships in the port.

SECTION XII—Measures against Rodents in Ships from Foreign Ports.

(1) *Procedure for Inspection of Ships for Rats—*

All ships arriving from foreign ports are searched as early as possible after arrival, to the extent that cargo will allow. After some of the cargo has been discharged from the holds further search is made.

(2) *Arrangements for the Examination of Rodents—*

All rodents recovered are examined superficially by the Inspector or the rat-catcher and any showing signs of not having been in good health are sent for pathological and bacteriological examination to Dr. R. T. Cooke, Pathologist at the General Hospital, West Hartlepool. Two rats were sent for examination during the year.

(3) *Arrangments for Deratting of Ships.*

In case of a minor infestation on a ship holding a valid deratting or deratting exemption certificate the port Rat-catcher carries out trapping or poisoning or both.

Deratting for the issue of a Deratting Certificate is done with cyanide by private contractors to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer.

The Contractor is not nominated by the Medical Officer. Firms who undertake fumigations are :—

Ben Wright & Co. Ltd.	Middlesbrough
Barber & Heron & Co.	South Shields
Milburn & Co. Ltd.	Sunderland.

(4) *Rat-proofing of Ships—*

Rat-proofing of new vessels is satisfactory. Old tonnage is improved as is necessary and practical.

Table E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports—

Category	Number
Black rats	186
Brown rats	Nil
Species not known	Nil
Sent for examination	2
Infected with plague	Nil

In addition 71 black rats were destroyed in coastwise ships.

Table F.

**Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates
issued during the year for ships from foreign ports—**

No. of Deratting Certificates issued				Total	No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
After fumigation with H.C.N.	Other fumigant (state method)	After Trapping	After Poisoning			
2	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	37	39

In addition 2 Deratting Certificates and 22 Deratting Exemption Certificates were issued to coastwise vessels.

SECTION XIII—Inspection of Ships for Nuisances.

Table G.

Inspections and Notices—

Nature and No. of inspections	Notices served		Result of serving notices
	Statutory notices	Other notices	
1331	Nil	64 Verbal & informal	63 Complied with 1 Partially complied with

The nuisances and sanitary defects consisted mainly of dirty and verminous quarters, defective and foul w.c.'s, leaking decks and defective ports and portlights.

**SECTION XIV—Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations
1934 and 1948.**

There are no shell-fish beds or layings under the jurisdiction of this Authority. There are however, Mussels, Winkles and Cockles which can be picked from dock gates, walls and rocks, and which are liable to pollution from sewage. For this reason warning notices are posted from time to time drawing the attention of the public to the dangerous consequences which may arise from the consumption of such shell-fish.

SECTION XV—Medical Inspection of Aliens.

This is not an approved port for the landing of aliens.

SECTION XVI—Miscellaneous.

Dead bodies are removed immediately to the nearest mortuary and action taken to secure speedy interment of the same.



